

NEWS RELEASE

Department of Local Government Finance

For Immediate Release

Friday, May 23, 2008

DLGF orders LaPorte County reassessment

INDIANAPOLIS (May 23, 2008) – The Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) today ordered LaPorte County to immediately reassess all real residential, commercial and industrial property for the 2006-pay-2007 tax billing cycle.

The decision came after an intensive review of assessments in the county showed "sales chasing", use of unapproved cost tables, and manipulation of cost data.

"It is in the best interest of the taxpayers of LaPorte to require the county to conduct a full reassessment," Commissioner Cheryl Musgrave said. "This will ensure that assessments in LaPorte County are done according to law.

According to the order, the County will have until November 28, 2008 to complete the reassessment. The process will be conducted by local officials or vendors hired by local officials. The Department will provide oversight of the work throughout the process.

The county may issue provisional tax bills to continue funding local government and schools.

Full documentation on the review of LaPorte County assessments is available on the Department's Web site www.dlgf.in.gov/2577.

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